

USAG-D HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

INSTRUCTIONS: Use this checklist to conduct a hazard inspection in your home.

Subject areas are: Falls; Fires, Burns and Electrocutions; Poisonings; Suffocations and Other Hazards.

Check each item YES, NO or N/A (not applicable).

Falls

- Are all stairways clear of objects that could cause a person to trip? _____
- Do all stairways have a firmly anchored handrail? _____
- Are all stairways well lighted? _____
- If you have small children, do you keep safety gates closed across the entrances to stairwells? _____
- Are stair coverings securely anchored? _____
- Do you have a safe stepladder for home use? _____
- Do you have a safe step stool with a handrail for reaching high shelves? _____
- Are all scatter rugs skid-proof, and do they lay flat? _____
- Are all carpets securely anchored? _____
- Are all entranceways, exits, halls and walks well lighted? _____
- Are night-lights used to prevent stumbling around in the dark? _____
- Are all walks, porches and doorways clear of obstacles? _____
- Are all hard-surfaced floors clean, are spills wiped up immediately? _____
- Is non-skid wax used on all polished floors? _____
- Is proper footwear worn to prevent slips, trips, falls and other fall injuries? _____
- Do bath tubs and showers have non-skid strips or suction mats in them? _____
- Are grab bars installed in bathtubs and showers? _____
- Are lamp, extension, and telephone cords placed out of traffic areas? _____
- Are all chairs, tables and beds safe to use? _____

Fires, Burns, Electrocutions

- Are all electric receptacles of the three-prong grounded type? _____
- Are all bathroom, kitchen, and outdoor circuits protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter? _____
- Do you know how to shut off the electrical, water and gas sources to your home? _____
- Are all fuses of correct amperage? _____
- Are fuses or circuit breakers labeled to identify outlets and appliances they protect? _____
- Does your home have adequate electrical power in all areas to safely operate all your electrical appliances? _____
- Do all light switches work correctly? _____
- Do all wall switches and outlets have safe cover plates? _____
- Are all appliance and extension cords in good condition? _____
- Is the ground prong still on all electric plugs that came equipped with one? _____
- Are all electrical appliances Underwriters Laboratories (UL) approved? Check both the appliance and the cord? _____
- Are small electrical appliances such as hair dryers, shavers, electric knives, coffee pots, etc. unplugged when not in use? _____
- Do you purchase "flame retardant" sleepwear for your children? _____
- If smoking is permitted in your home, do you provide deep, wide-rimmed ashtrays and prohibit smoking in bed or while lying down? _____
- Is the furnace cleaned and serviced yearly? _____
- Are areas around the furnace clear of boxes and other combustible materials? _____
- Is the chimney and smoke pipe cleaned yearly? _____
- Does the fireplace function properly and is it adequately screened? _____
- Is the space around the hot water heater clear of combustible materials? _____

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- Does the hot water heater have a pressure and temperature relief valve? _____
- Is the hot water temperature 120 degree or less to prevent burns? (It may need to be set at 140 degrees for the dishwasher to wash dishes properly.) _____
- Are portable heaters in good condition, is adequate ventilation provided, and is it positioned in a safe location away from flammable materials? _____
- Are portable electric fans and heaters adequately screened to prevent contact with the fan blades or heating elements? _____
- Do you keep matches where young children cannot reach them? _____
- Are small children supervised when in the kitchen while you are cooking, baking, and handling hot objects? _____
- Are charcoal grills used only outdoors, never in the house, garage or enclosed porch? _____
- Has your family developed and practiced a fire escape plan for your home? _____
- Is the smoke and/or fire detectors installed in the house, at least one per floor? _____
- Is the smoke and/or fire detectors tested monthly? _____
- Do you have a charged ABC fire extinguisher of at least the 2-1/2-pound size conveniently located in your home? _____

Poisonings / Suffocations / Other Hazards

- Do you keep household chemicals (drain cleaners, bleach, bug sprays etc.) stored out of reach and sight of small children? _____
- Do you keep drugs and medicines out of reach and sight of small children? _____
- Do all drugs, medicines and chemicals have "children-proof" caps and lids? _____
- Are out-dated drugs, medicines, cosmetics and other chemical products discarded regularly? _____
- Do you keep paint, paint thinner, pesticides and gasoline stored out of the house and away from heat and other ignition sources? _____
- Are alcoholic beverages out of reach and sight of children? _____
- Is mildew controlled through adequate air circulation and humidity control? _____
- Are you reasonably certain that your home is free of radon, formaldehyde and other toxic gases? _____
- Is the baby crib designed to prevent a baby's head or clothing from becoming caught? _____
- Have all old refrigerators, freezers or other airtight appliances had the doors altered so that small children cannot crawl in, be trapped and suffocate? _____
- Are children's toys and play articles suitable for their age, in good condition and safe? _____
- Are small or sharp items, string, cord and plastic bags kept out of reach of small children? _____
- Are all sliding glass doors and other glass doors fitted with non-breakable glass? _____
- Do sliding glass doors have some type of figure or design on the glass to help you see them when they are closed? _____
- Do all doors close and latch properly? _____
- Are all exterior doors secured with a deadbolt for security purposes? _____
- Do all windows close and latch securely? _____
- Are interior doors designed so small children cannot lock themselves in rooms? _____
- Are pool and play areas fenced to keep small children in and uninvited guests out? _____
- Are children adequately supervised at play and when in or around the pool? _____
- Are you positive that pets are not a danger to your small children? _____
- Are baby sitters qualified and are they given adequate instructions? _____
- Are firearms kept out of reach and sight of children? _____
- Is a well-stocked first aid kit available for emergencies? _____
- Is at least one member of your family trained in first aid, CPR and the Heimlich maneuver? _____
- Do you have emergency numbers posted by all telephones? _____

Each answer "No" could result in an accident. The more "No's", the greater the risk to you and your family.

"YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION TO SAFETY"